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# Informal Sector DA

Minimum wage causes a shift to the informal sector—specific to developing countries, takes out your offense since the wages they get decline overall. **Boeri ‘08**[[1]](#footnote-1)

Minimum wages may not have negative effects on employment in dual labor markets where the minimum wage does not apply to the secondary or informal labor market. Under these conditions there are important spillover effects between the two sectors. As pointed out by Gramlich (1976), Mincer (1976) and, Welch (1976), after a minimum wage increase, workers displaced in the formal sector move to the uncovered sector. Hence, as depicted in figure 2.4, wages in the informal sector fall (fromwoI tow1I),and labor supply in the formal sector declines (shifting the Ls curve to the left). The minimum wage then reallocates jobs from the formal to the informal sector, increasing the difference between formal and informal wages. This adjustment mechanism prevents employment losses only insofar as there is perfect labor mobility between the two sectors.

## India Link Addon

Specifically in India, minimum wage laws don’t affect the informal sector—no chance of a turn, and this is a terminal solvency deficit. **Varkkey ‘13**[[2]](#footnote-2)

In India, workers in informal sector are distinguished from the workers in formal sectors in the following way: a) in the organised sector activities are regulated by legislation, while that in unorganised sector are not well regulated and b) workers in the organised sector are covered under social security legislations, while they do not cover the unorganised sector. As a rule of thumb the demarcation line between organized and unorganized enterprises is at 10 employees. Unorganised sector workers are mostly employed in rural jobs and are increasingly migrating to the cities. Being migrant and casual in nature, they often remain outside the purview of India's tough labour laws and the collective bargaining strength of the unions. Workers engaged in the unorganised sector do not have the benefit of several laws such as the Minimum Wages Act or the Factories Act. They are also not covered by statutory welfare measures such as maternity benefits, provident fund, gratuity, etc.

## Kenya Agriculture Link Addon

Agricultural minimum wages in Kenya specifically decrease formal employment. **Andalon and Pages ‘08[[3]](#footnote-3)**

The evidence indicates that minimum wages pushed up wages set by the general order, but not by the agricultural order. The indication would then be that relatively low minimum wages, combined with non-compliance, limited the effect of the minimum wage in the agricultural sector. In contrast, minimum wages in the general order appear to have raised wages for low educated workers and women, leading to seemingly strong adverse effects on formal sector employment. Our estimates indicate that a 10 percent points increase in the minimum to median wage ratio would be associated with a decline in the share of formal employment of between 1.1-5.5 percentage points –and an increase of between 2.7-5.9 points in the share of self-employment

## Impacts

### Econ – Growth/Competitiveness

Informal sector kills growth, productivity, and competitiveness – turns case and outweighs. **Farrell 04**[[4]](#footnote-4)

In Portugal and Turkey, informality accounts for nearly 50 percent of the overall productivity gap with the US. Around the world, these informal players operate at just half the average productivity level of formal companies in the same sectors and at a small fraction of the productivity of the best companies. As a result, informal companies persistently drag down a country's overall productivity and standard of living. MGI's investigation also found that the substantial cost advantage that informal companies gain by avoiding taxes and regulations more than offsets their low productivity and small scale. Competition is therefore distorted because inefficient informal players stay in business and prevent more productive, formal companies from gaining market share. Any short-term employment benefits of informality are thus greatly outweighed by its long-term negative impact on economic growth and job creation.

### Econ – Shocks

Makes countries more likely to experience econ shocks and increases their impact. Means no long term solvency for their aff. **Bacchetta ‘09**[[5]](#footnote-5)

Informality is associated with increased vulnerability of countries to economic shocks. Moreover, informality raises the likelihood of being affected by such shocks. The combination of these two tendencies can create a vicious circle, weakening the long-term performance of a country, lowering the potential benefits it can derive from trade and reducing economic well-being. Volatility in growth performance and the frequency of extreme economic events (such as rapid growth spurts and sudden growth reversals) tend to rise with the size of the informal economy. Countries with above average sized informal economies are almost twice as likely to experience extreme economic events, compared to countries with less informal employment. Empirical evidence in the literature tends to confirm this adverse association between informality and business cycle volatility – informality both acts as a direct cause for higher business cycle volatility and represents a symptom for other institutional deficiencies that render a country less resilient to shocks, such as the absence of automatic stabilizers or the presence of regulatory distortions.

### Oppression – Generic (Developing Countries)

2. It retrenches oppressive structures – removes workers from any social safety net, makes them subject to oppression and excludes them permanently from future social gains. **Sundquist ‘11[[6]](#footnote-6)**

The informal economy of the developing world is typically composed of very small businesses that are not registered in any way. They are rarely run from business premises. Instead, they are run from homes, street pavements or other informal squatter-like arrangements. They are usually a result of the massive rural-to-urban migration occurring throughout the developing world reflecting a scarcity of undeveloped arable land and divisions of family farms among numerous heirs. They are also a result of "Structural Adjustment Programs" imposed by the World Bank or the IMF or the WTO on most developing nations. The Informal workforce typically survives of barest of subsistence earnings, with few opportunities to accumulate enough capital to move into the stagnant "formal" economy. The informal workforce tends to suffer from oppression at the hands of those in the formal economies via the dominant influence that those in formal economies exert on government policies. For almost all developing nations, the informal economy is the only component of the economy that is growing. This would suggesting that the informal economy will probably grow to something on the order of two thirds of the developing world's economy. The informal economy seems to be blending seamlessly into the caste-, feudal- and slave systems of the developing world. These four systems share a number of key similarities. Analyses here finds that reducing rates of population growth in developing nations could greatly reduce the extreme scarcity of capital. This, in turn, would reduce the relative size of the informal economy. Several technologies developed in the past decade or so offer possibilities for reducing population growth rates inexpensively. The bulk of developing world's governments is now well aware of the economic benefits of reducing population growth. The globalization process appears to be spreading the informal economy into parts of the developed world as well

### Oppression – Women

Exacerbates gender pay gaps and makes female workers more susceptible to abuse. **Ramani et al ‘13[[7]](#footnote-7)**

On the other hand, contrary to the formal sector, women are over-represented (i.e. making up more than 50 per cent) in the informal sector in developing countries (Chen, 2001). The informal sector is the primary source of employment for salaried women, in the form of self-employment (selling directly to consumer), contract labour (producing for another organization regularly), casual labour (working on and off for other organizations) or contributing family members. The most preva- lent forms of work are as street vendors or home-based producers (i.e. without leaving the confines of a home for production). However, despite women being over- represented in the informal sector, gender disparities are still rampant. Chen (2001) infers from existing data that: (i) fewer women than men ‘hire’ labour; i.e. women are employees rather than employers; (ii) wages are lower in the informal sector as compared to the formal sector; and within the informal sector, women earn on average a lower wage than men, with the gender-wage-gap being greater than in the formal sector; (iii) women are more visible in the ‘lower-value-added’ activities of the informal economy; (iv) the most invisible informal workers, namely the home-based producers con- tribute the most to global trade as they form a significant share of the workforce in key export industries involving man- ual tasks or labour intensive operations; and (v) the outsourcing of goods and services of the formal sector to the infor- mal economy is increasing. Why is it that even though the informal economy offers a lower wage than the formal sector, without any of the typical advantages of the formal sector such as regular labour contract, health insur- ance, workers’ benefits, pension schemes etc. women are more attracted to it? For Chen (2001) it is mainly because, “....women are less able than men to compete in labour, capital and product markets because they have relatively low levels of education and skills or are less likely to own property or have market know-how” and “...women’s time and mobility are constrained by social and cultural norms that assign the responsibility for social reproduction to women and discourage investment in women’s education and training” (p.7). As a result, women workers in the informal sector are easily hired, fired, cheapened and exploited.

# Unemployment DA – Youth

Minimum wages lower youth skill acquisition – creates lower wages and higher unemployment rates in their lifetimes **Gorry ‘13[[8]](#footnote-8)**

Neumark and Nizalova (2004) document that exposure to high minimum wages at young ages has long-run effects. They show that exposure to high minimum wages at young ages implies that workers both work and earn less even into their late 20's. Moreover, Keane and Wolpin (1997) show that human capital accumulation while on the job is important to understanding worker's labor market decisions and outcomes. Missing skill accumulation early in life has long run implications for wage growth if the agent is unable to make up for the lack of skill accumulation while unemployed. The model can account for differences in wage outcomes as experienced workers have a higher reservation productivity level and earn higher wages than inexperienced workers. Workers who are exposed to high minimum wages early in life will have a lower probability of becoming employed and experienced. The left panel of Figure 5 presents the percentage of people who are experienced by age from the baseline model and the model with a 50% increase in the minimum wage. Under a higher minimum wage a worker is less likely to be experienced. The lower rate of experience shows up in higher rates of unemployment and lower wages later in life.

Their ev is right after implementing the minimum wage with the existing workforce, it doesn’t account for how the minimum wage shapes the workforce in negative way.

These effects are ongoing forever after the minimum wage – outweighs short term benefits over time.

No other studies model for disparate impacts

*[Doesn’t need to win general unemployment – young workers are substituted, which would keep the rate numerically constant but still has my impact]*

*[Other studies don’t do this.* ***Gorry 2***

Much of the macro-labor literature focuses on representative agent models that abstract from differences in labor market decisions over an individual's life cycle.5 Including experience in a general equilibrium model is important to assess the effect of minimum wages on unemployment because the value of experience enters into the wage equation for inexperienced workers, changing the distribution of bargained wages. As a simple way to capture the returns to experience, experienced workers in the model have a high fixed productivity level, a lower rate of exogenous job separations, and are not subject to idiosyncratic productivity shocks that generate endogenous job separations.6The model generates differences in employment outcomes by age because older workers are more likely to be experienced, making the basic framework ideal for evaluating the effect of policy on young workers.*]*

The impact is structural violence – youth unemployment causes cyclic poverty, social exclusion, violence, depresses future earning potential and ambition. **Mani ‘14[[9]](#footnote-9)**

What do you see as the long-term consequences? The ILO has warned of a 'scarred generation'. Long-term youth unemployment drains the motivation and ambition of those it touches and makes them more cynical. Countries with prolonged high levels of youth unemployment risk social instability. It can also result in a vicious circle of intergenerational poverty and social exclusion. Lack of employment opportunities may trigger violence and juvenile delinquency.

## Black Youth

Unemployment disproportionately affects blacks. **McCoy ‘11[[10]](#footnote-10)**

And economists William Even from Miami University and David Macpherson from Trinity University report that when a state, or the federal government, increases the minimum wage, Black teens are more likely to be laid off. The duo analyzed 600,000 data points, which the Employment Policies Institute says included “a robust sample of minority young adults unprecedented in previous studies on the minimum wage.” The report focused on 16-to 24-year-old males without a high school diploma and found that for each 10 percent increase in the federal or state minimum wage employment for young Black males decreased 6.5 percent. By contrast, after the same wage boost, employment for white and Hispanic males fell respectively just 2.5 percent and 1.2 percent. The real hit for Black teens occurred, however, in the 21 states that had the federal minimum wage increase in 2007, 2008 and 2009. The findings reveal that while 13,200 Black young adults lost their jobs as a direct result of the recession nearly 40 percent more, a total of 18,500, were fired because of the rise in the federal minimum wage, raising the researchers’ question: “Why do black males suffer more harm from wage mandates than their white or Hispanic counterparts?”

Outweighs since it means you can never attack the root cause of racism-if blacks can’t get jobs there are no way for them to build the connections that would allow future generations to be on a more even playing field.

## Econ

Teen unemployment kills economic growth and stability. **Herbert ‘09**[[11]](#footnote-11)

Pick your poison. This is not the kind of downturn Americans are used to. The ones who are being hit the hardest and will have the most difficult time recovering are America’s young workers. Nearly 2.2 million young people, ages 16 through 29, have already lost their jobs in this recession. This follows an already steep decline in employment opportunities for young workers over the past several years. Good jobs were hard to find for most categories of workers during that period. One of the results has been that older men and women have been taking and holding onto jobs that in prior eras would have gone to young people. “What we’ve seen over the past eight years, for young people under 30, is the largest age reversal with regard to jobs that we’ve ever had in our history,” said Andrew Sum, the director of the Center for Labor Market Studies. “The younger you are, the more you got pushed out of this labor market.” There were not enough jobs to go around before the recession took hold. So the young, the poor and the poorly educated were already suffering. Now that pool of suffering is rapidly expanding. This has ominous long-term implications for the country. The economy cannot perform well with such a large cohort of young people condemned to marginal economic status. Young men and women who remain unemployed for substantial periods of time find it very difficult to make up that ground. They lose the experience and training they would have gained by working. Even if they eventually find employment, they tend to lag behind their peers when it comes to wages, promotions and job security. Moreover, as the economy worsens, even the college educated are feeling the crunch. According to a report by researchers working with Mr. Sum: “While young college graduates have fared the best in maintaining some type of employment, a growing fraction of them are becoming mal-employed, holding jobs in occupations that do not require much schooling beyond high school, often displacing their less-educated peers.” Employment problems have festered in the United States for decades. The economy will never be brought to a state of health until those problems are more thoughtfully and more directly engaged. This will become more and more clear with each passing month of this hideous recession.

Econ collapse leads to extinction. **Bearden 2k[[12]](#footnote-12)**

History bears out that desperate nations take desperate actions. Prior to the final economic collapse, the stress on nations will have increased the intensity and number of their conflicts, to the point where the arsenals of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) now possessed by some 25 nations, are almost certain to be released. As an example, suppose a starving North Korea launches nuclear weapons upon Japan and South Korea, including U.S. forces there, in a spasmodic suicidal response. Or suppose a desperate China-whose long-range nuclear missiles (some) can reach the United States-attacks Taiwan. In addition to immediate responses, the mutual treaties involved in such scenarios will quickly draw other nations into the conflict, escalating it significantly. Strategic nuclear studies have shown for decades that, under such extreme stress conditions, once a few nukes are launched, adversaries and potential adversaries are then compelled to launch on perception of preparations by one's adversary. The real legacy of the MAD concept is this side of the MAD coin that is almost never discussed. Without effective defense, the only chance a nation has to survive at all is to launch immediate full-bore pre-emptive strikes and try to take out its perceived foes as rapidly and massively as possible. As the studies showed, rapid escalation to full WMD exchange occurs. Today, a great percent of the WMD arsenals that will be unleashed, are already on site within the United States itself. The resulting great Armageddon will destroy civilization as we know it, and perhaps most of the biosphere, at least for many decades.

# Unemployment DA – General

## Unemployment Cards

### Short: Wascher

Living wage causes massive job loss – prefer meta analyses. **Wascher 07**[[13]](#footnote-13)

We review the burgeoning literature on the employment effects of minimum wages – in the United States and other countries – that was spurred by the new minimum wage research beginning in the early 1990s. Our review indicates that there is a wide range of existing estimates and, accordingly, a lack of consensus about the overall effects on low-wage employment of an increase in the minimum wage. However, the oft-stated assertion that recent research fails to support the traditional view that the minimum wage reduces the employment of low-wage workers is clearly incorrect. A sizable majority of the studies surveyed in this monograph give a relatively consistent (although not always statistically significant) indication of negative employment effects of minimum wages. In addition, among the papers we view as providing the most credible evidence, almost all point to negative employment effects, both for the United States as well as for many other countries. Two other important conclusions emerge from our review. First, we see very few – if any – studies that provide convincing evidence of positive employment effects of minimum wages, especially from those studies that focus on the broader groups (rather than a narrow industry) for which the competitive model predicts disemployment effects. Second, the studies that focus on the least-skilled groups provide relatively overwhelming evidence of stronger disemployment effects for these groups.

Outweighs:

**A.** Proves international consensus which verifies that the causal mechanisms behind the job loss are true in all market conditions – this means effects will be enduring and can’t solve

**B.** It likely underestimates the effect since the higher the wage and the more credible the study, the worse the impact

### Long: Wilson

Minimum wage laws cause rampant unemployment and collapses the economy – this disproportionately affects the worst off – every credible study goes neg. **Wilson 12**[[14]](#footnote-14)

Despite the use of different models to understand the effects of minimum wages, all economists agree that businesses will make changes to adapt to the higher labor costs after a minimum wage increase. Empirical research seeks to determine what changes to variables such as employment and prices firms will make, and how large those changes will be. The higher costs will be passed on to someone in the long run; the only question is who. The important thing for policymakers to remember is that a decision to increase the minimum wage is not cost-free; someone has to pay for it. The main finding of economic theory and empirical research over the past 70 years is that minimum wage increases tend to reduce employment. The higher the minimum wage relative to competitive-market wage levels, the greater the employment loss that occurs. While minimum wages ostensibly aim to improve the economic well-being of the working poor, the disemployment effects of a minimum wages have been found to fall disproportionately on the least skilled and on the most disadvantaged individuals, including the disabled, youth, lower-skilled workers, immigrants, and ethnic minorities.16 Based on his studies, Nobel laureate economist Milton Friedman observed: “The real tragedy of minimum wage laws is that they are supported by well-meaning groups who want to reduce poverty. But the people who are hurt most by higher minimums are the most poverty stricken.”17 In a generally competitive labor market, employers bid for the most productive workers and the resulting wage distribution reflects the productivity of those workers. If the government imposes a minimum wage on the labor market, those workers whose productivity falls below the minimum wage will find few, if any, employment opportunities. The basic theory of competitive labor markets predicts that a minimum wage imposed above the market wage rate will reduce employment.18 Evidence of employment loss has been found since the earliest implementation of the minimum wage. The U.S. Department of Labor’s own assessment of the first 25-cent minimum wage in 1938 found that it resulted in job losses for 30,000 to 50,000 workers, or 7 The greatest adverse impact will generally occur in the poorer and lower-wage regions. In those regions, businesses have to take more dramatic steps to adjust to the higher costs. 10 to 13 percent of the 300,000 covered workers who previously earned below the new wage floor.19 It is important to note that the limited industries and occupations covered by the 1938 FLSA accounted for only about 20 percent of the 30 million private sector, nonfarm, nonsupervisory, production workers employed in 1938. And of the roughly 6 million workers potentially covered by the law, only about 5 percent earned an hourly rate below the new minimum.20 Following passage of the federal minimum wage in 1938, economists began to accumulate statistical evidence on the effects. Much of the research has indicated that increases in the minimum wage have adverse effects on the employment opportunities of low-skilled workers.21 And across the country, the greatest adverse impact will generally occur in the poorer and lower-wage regions. In those regions, more workers and businesses are affected by the mandated wage, and businesses have to take more dramatic steps to adjust to the higher costs. As an example, with the original 1938 imposition of the minimum wage, the lower-income U.S. territory of Puerto Rico was severely affected. An estimated 120,000 workers in Puerto Rico lost their jobs within the first year of implementation of the new 25-cent minimum wage, and the island’s unemployment rate soared to nearly 50 percent.22 Similar damaging effects were observed on American Samoa from minimum wage increases imposed between 2007 and 2009. Indeed, the effects were so pronounced on the island’s economy that President Obama signed into law a bill postponing the minimum wage increases scheduled for 2010 and 2011.23 Concern over the scheduled 2012 increase of $.50 compelled Governor Togiola Tulafono to testify before Congress: “We are watching our economy burn down. We know what to do to stop it. We need to bring the aggressive wage costs decreed by the Federal Government under control. . . . Our job market is being torched. Our businesses are being depressed. Our hope for growth has been driven away.”24 In 1977 ongoing debate about the minimum wage prompted Congress to create a Minimum Wage Study Commission to “help it resolve the many controversial issues that have surrounded the federal minimum wage and overtime requirement since their origin in the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938.”25 The commission published its report in May 1981, calling it “the most exhaustive inquiry ever undertaken into the issues surrounding the Act since its inception.”26 The landmark report included a wide variety of studies by a virtual ‘‘who’s who’’ of labor economists working in the United States at the time.27 A review of the economic literature amassed by the Commission by Charles Brown, Curtis Gilroy, and Andrew Kohen found that the “time-series studies typically find that a 10 percent increase in the minimum wage reduces teenage employment by one to three percent.”28 This range subsequently came to be thought of as the consensus view of economists on the employment effects of the minimum wage. It is important to note that different academic studies on the minimum wage may examine different regions, industries, or types of workers. In each case, different effects may predominate. A federal minimum wage increase will impose a different impact on the fast-food restaurant industry than the defense contractor industry, and a different effect on lower-cost Alabama than higher-cost Manhattan. This is why scholarly reviews of many academic studies are important. In 2006 David Neumark and William Wascher published a comprehensive review of more than 100 minimum wage studies published since the 1990s.29 They found a wider range of estimates of the effects of the minimum wage on employment than the 1982 review by Brown, Gilroy, and Kohen. The 2006 review found that “although the wide range of estimates is striking, the oft-stated assertion that the new minimum wage research fails to support the traditional view that the minimum wage reduces the employment of low-wage workers is clearly incorrect. Indeed . . . the preponderance of the evidence points to disemployment effects.”38 Some employers will replace their lowest-skilled workers with somewhat higherskilled workers in response to increases in the minimum wage. Nearly two-thirds of the studies reviewed by Neumark and Wascher found a relatively consistent indication of negative employment effects of minimum wages, while only eight gave a relatively consistent indication of positive employment effects. Moreover, 85 percent of the most credible studies point to negative employment effects, and the studies that focused on the least-skilled groups most likely to be adversely affected by minimum wages, the evidence for disemployment effects were especially strong. In contrast, there are very few, if any, studies that provide convincing evidence of positive employment effects of minimum wages. These few studies often use a monopsony model to explain these positive effects. But as noted, most economists think such positive effects are special cases and not generally applicable because few low-wage employers are big enough to face an upward-sloping labor supply curve as the monopsony model assumes

Outweighs:

**A.** Consensus is the strongest indicator of good evidence – high schoolers can’t do as good evidence comparison in 45 minutes as professional scholars can in years – consensus is the mark of expert evidence comparison, so default to it – this is meta-level comparison about what kinds of evidence comparison to prefer

**B.** some empirical evidence goes both ways but the basic economic principles go neg– if empirics defy the laws of economics it’s an indicator your empirics are wrong since those laws have governed economic behavior since the start of history and they are assumed by all economic models

## Extra Impacts

### Psych/Worker Dignity

Job loss affects self-perception and psychological health. **Brand ‘14[[15]](#footnote-15)**

A job is more than a source of income. It is a fundamental social role providing a source of identity, self-concept, and social relations. Classical social theorists, including Weber and Marx, describe, in diverse ways, the centrality of work to the individual ego and social identity and prestige. Jobs are also an integral component to the process of social stratification, inequality, and mobility, representing a principal outcome of social background resources and individual attainment. The displacement of workers has become a normative feature of the U.S. labor market, commonly assumed to increase economic efficiency. However, the costs of such fluidity are unequally distributed, born largely by displaced workers and those closest to them. Moreover, if lack of regulation negatively impacts worker, family, and community well-being, countervailing effects that decrease overall productivity inevitably follow. The evidence that job loss matters, that the range of consequences is wide, and that the effects persist long-term, is persuasive. The research literature described above documents nontrivial, short- and long-term observed differences between displaced and non- displaced workers across far-reaching life outcomes. Displacement is associated with significant economic costs, including a period of unemployment, reduced income, lower job quality, loss of health and pension benefits, and interruption of asset accrual. Long-term trends of rising inequality and job market polarization exacerbate adjustment problems the displaced endure. And, as indicated throughout this review, job loss is not limited to economic effects. Worker displacement is associated with: lower levels of self-acceptance, goal and meaning in life, and morale; higher levels of depressive symptoms and poor health; loss of social support and personal reassessment in relation to societal norms and unemployment stigmatization; new patterns of interaction with family members, restriction of socially-supportive collegial relationships, and disruption of social and family ties; and intergenerational effects as indicated by reduced attainment among children of displaced workers. Some of these themes have received considerable empirical investigation, while others, including family and community effects, have received less attention. Future work should attend more fully to the impact of displacement beyond workers themselves.

Outweighs:

**A.** Worker dignity based on wage value is a marginal increase at best, it’s still wage labor in essentially the same relation to employers. It changes the amount but doesn’t change employer control – at will firing, for example, still exists

**B.** Has more of an impact on dignity because it impacts their self-definition. How you see yourself frames how others see you but also how you perceive others interactions with you.

**C.** Objective ability to pursue life plans is irrelevant if individuals don’t to take advantage of resources, so psychological factors that stop individuals from doing that preclude their offense.

### Black Youth

Unemployment disproportionately affects blacks. **McCoy ‘11[[16]](#footnote-16)**

And economists William Even from Miami University and David Macpherson from Trinity University report that when a state, or the federal government, increases the minimum wage, Black teens are more likely to be laid off. The duo analyzed 600,000 data points, which the Employment Policies Institute says included “a robust sample of minority young adults unprecedented in previous studies on the minimum wage.” The report focused on 16-to 24-year-old males without a high school diploma and found that for each 10 percent increase in the federal or state minimum wage employment for young Black males decreased 6.5 percent. By contrast, after the same wage boost, employment for white and Hispanic males fell respectively just 2.5 percent and 1.2 percent. The real hit for Black teens occurred, however, in the 21 states that had the federal minimum wage increase in 2007, 2008 and 2009. The findings reveal that while 13,200 Black young adults lost their jobs as a direct result of the recession nearly 40 percent more, a total of 18,500, were fired because of the rise in the federal minimum wage, raising the researchers’ question: “Why do black males suffer more harm from wage mandates than their white or Hispanic counterparts?”

Outweighs since it means you can never attack the root cause of racism-if blacks can’t get jobs there are no way for them to build the connections that would allow future generations to be on a more even playing field.

# Outsourcing DA

Outsourcing is decreasing in the status quo due to lower labor costs overseas. **Northam 14**[[17]](#footnote-17)

For decades, American companies have been sending their manufacturing work overseas. Extremely low wages in places like China, Vietnam and the Philippines reduced costs and translated into cheaper prices for consumers wanting flat-screen TVs, dishwashers and a range of gadgets. But now a growing number of American companies are reversing that trend, bringing manufacturing back to the United States in a trend known as "reshoring." Kim Freeman, a spokeswoman for General Electric Appliances, walks into a sprawling plant in Louisville, Ky. Machine noise is thunderous in the brightly lit room. The finished product, a hybrid water heater, is not much to look at — tubby, about 4 feet tall, with a few knobs and levers. But it's actually a high-tech, energy-efficient appliance. For years, GE outsourced manufacturing of the water heater to a company in China. In 2009, GE did the math and, considering rising wages overseas as well as climbing transportation costs, decided to bring production back to the U.S.

Minimum wage increases fuel outsourcing to countries with lower pay and worse regulations. **Olen 14[[18]](#footnote-18)**

There is a growing concern among conservatives that increasing the minimum wage would result in more businesses outsourcing their jobs overseas where workers are paid much less than $4 an hour let alone $10. They fear that if forced to pay workers more than $10 an hour, companies will ship jobs overseas for lower overhead costs than pay more for workers here. One the other side of the aisle, liberals view the proposed increase to the minimum wage as a moral obligation to ensure workers who hold a full-time job are actually making a decent living—a yearly income greater than the poverty line. As such, this week President Obama signed an executive order guaranteeing federal contract workers will make at least $10.10 per hour. This power grab by the President is a fulfillment of the his promise to go around Congress to implement changes. Some have put forward the idea that our focus should be on increasing the skill level of our workers, through retraining programs and educational support. The idea that better skilled workers would create more jobs is unlikely seeing that so few goods are still manufactured in America. By dismantling and outsourcing our manufacturing infrastructure, the U.S. lost the very job opportunities that would call for those higher skill sets. The crux of the issue is that our current economy has been stripped of it’s manufacturing core, and therefore also stripped of middle class jobs. Because of this it cannot supply the average American worker with a well paying job. “Free trade” agreements like NAFTA are the cause of our decimated manufacturing base. NAFTA and similar “free trade” agreements have made American manufacturers compete directly with third-world countries whose wages are often less than $4 an hour with few safety or environmental regulations. This has led much of our manufacturing to leave our shores to compete.

Turns case – you don’t eliminate sub-living wage jobs, just move them around. workers in other countries in worse conditions deal with EXACTLY the same problem in MUCH worse ways since they lack access to other protections. It’s just a ruse of solvency.

### Long Turns Case Card

Turns case, workers in the third world have lower wages and are treated worse **Wong ‘13[[19]](#footnote-19)**

One of the biggest hallmarks of sweatshop labor is that the workers are simply underpaid, especially considering the kinds of working conditions they endure. Minimum wage levels in countries such as Thailand, the Philippines, and China, are significantly lower than that of the United States. The federal minimum wage per hour in the United States is currently at 7.25 dollars, while it is 1.48 dollars in Thailand, 69 cents in the Philippines, and 67 cents in China. However, workers are frequently paid less than these estimates suggest—amounts barely enough to survive on even considering the lower cost of living in these regions. Many developing Asian countries have official minimum wage levels, but the lack of uniform and comprehensive regulations with nationwide coverage across all labor groups and industries remains a huge problem. For instance, minimum wage regulations are applicable in Cambodia only to the garment and shoe-sewing sector, and in Sri Lanka only to over 35 industrial trades. Furthermore, the lack of institutional regulatory effectiveness in enforcing compliance is an even greater problem. Since turnover is extremely rapid, sweatshop workers are not guaranteed these meager salaries over the long term. For example, the International Textile, Garment and Leather Workers’ Federation (ITGLWF) investigated a factory in Indonesia and found that over 80% of their workers were on short term contracts. Such factories hire and fire workers as volatile production needs change, with little regard for their employees’ job security or welfare. These workers have no financial security to speak of, and also reported they did not get any sort of severance pay. In addition, these laborers are also subjected to violence, another common aspect of sweatshop operations in the developing world. Workers at a Converse plant in Sukabumi, Indonesia, reported that their supervisors threw shoes at them, slapped, kicked, and called them dogs and pigs. It is hard to measure the frequency and severity of physical and verbal abuse in these settings, as fear deters workers from reporting such cases and there is a characteristic lack of supervision. Furthermore, many sweatshop workers are children; roughly one in eight children in the Asia-Pacific is between the ages of 4 and 15 and works in a sweatshop. India has the highest rates of child labor of any country in the world, employing over 55 million children, many of whom were sold into labor by their families.

### Colonialism/Foreign Econ

Outsourcing is modern colonialism and hinders foreign economies, India proves **Bhide ‘04[[20]](#footnote-20)**

**As with any large country, the long-run prospects for the Indian economy turn on the productivity of its domestic sector**. Only city-states like Singapore can export most of what they produce and import most of what they consume. For India, **the low productivity of its domestic industry has impoverished it for centuries**. **Under British rule, exports** of items such as tea and jute **flourished but the manufacturing sector** more or less **missed the industrial revolution**. Indian craftsmen accounted for about a quarter of the world's production of manufactured goods in 1750. But while the West adopted mass production techniques in the 19th century, most manufacturing in India remained confined to handicrafts. By the time of Indian independence, employment in large-scale factories accounted for less than 2% of the workforce. So **while industrialization led to** unprecedented rates of economic **growth in the West, in colonial India growth rates were close to zero.** The rate of industrialization and economic growth did increase after independence. But progress was hindered by autarkical policies. The colonial government had used tariffs as a convenient source of taxes: in 1933, textile and sugar imports faced duties of up to 75% and 190% respectively. Post independence Indian governments, which wanted to protect domestic enterprise, further increased those import barriers. They also discouraged investments by Western companies that could have brought in modern technology. Indian companies then reinvented and sold many wheels of low quality produced at high cost. Today, although government policies no longer mandate homegrown technology, productivity remains well below modern standards. Closing the gap will require t he extensive acquisition of knowledge from abroad. This is not simply a matter of licensing technology. Indian industry also needs to acquire the soft knowledge needed to sustain modern enterprises, through mechanisms such as recruitment of expatriates, joint ventures and foreign direct investment. To be sure, India's software exports can help pay for the license fees and the salaries of expatriates. And the expectation of continued export earnings that can be applied to the repatriation of dividends should encourage multinationals to set up shop in India. But **the ability to pay for imported knowledge does not ensure the development of a modern economy** – if it did, Nigeria wouldn't be a basket case today. And in fact just as oil exports can be a curse, **favoring exports over domestic activity can hinder economic development**. Such a bias is evident in a variety of Indian government policies today. For instance, information-technology exporters enjoy tax holidays, duty-free imports of inputs, preferential access to industrial land and an honest, well-run government regulatory agency that shields them from the pervasive corruption that hobbles domestic companies. And it is worth noting that **a multinational company can set up an outsourcing unit in** a matter of **months but will face** significant **obstacles if it tried to** establish a subsidiary to **serve the local market**. Unless the government creates the same conditions for the domestic industry that have allowed exporters to flourish, **the software campuses and call centers in India may well become like the oil company compounds in Nigeria**. India's new rulers ignore this at their peril.

# Structural Violence Case Turns

*(Obviously read some disads too – probably outsourcing if it works)*

It changes the way people have to bargain – they have to bargain by accepting abusive conditions instead of monetarily. **Zycher ‘15[[21]](#footnote-21)**

Your March 10 editorial “The Abused Maids of Asia” notes in passing the minimum monthly wage for maids in Hong Kong of $530, but fails to discuss the central role of that policy as a source of the abusive conditions to which the maids are subjected. The minimum wage means that maids cannot compete for employment by offering to work for less money; instead, they must compete by accepting abusive conditions. Without the minimum wage, maids subjected to abuse could seek alternative employment with wages lower than the minimum, but with better conditions. With the minimum wage, employers have sharply weaker incentives to offer better conditions. Moreover, many of the ancillary abuses suffered by the maids also are the direct result of the minimum wage, which attracts too many aspiring maids seeking higher incomes, thus allowing exorbitant fees for required “training courses” and for unscrupulous employment agencies. The minimum wage does not reduce competition among low-skilled workers; it shifts it in ways that easily can leave them worse off overall. This economic reality is relevant to the minimum wage debate in the U.S.

Also answers your solvency ev – extra money that they *should* be getting isn’t going to them because the market isn’t clearing: instead, other actors are able to take it from them in order to get them in the door.

High minimum wages prioritize non-priced forms of competition, which exclude traditionally disadvantaged groups. **Easton ‘15 summarizes Mulligan[[22]](#footnote-22)** explains in the context of the U.S.

Mulligan argued against raising the minimum wage, claiming that a small minimum wage fixes prices rather than affects the quantity of available labor in the market. “Economic theory, especially if you tell me that it’s gonna work through non-priced competition, doesn’t necessarily predict a change in the quantity of labor,” he said.

What minimum wage does do, he argued, is emphasize subjective forms of competition, known as non-priced competition. Non-priced forms of competition have nothing to do with the value of a worker, but concern the superficial ways in which he or she is presented to an employer. When discussing the value employees and employers gain from jobs and hires, Mulligan asked, “Are you chosen on the basis of you being the white guy? Or are you chosen on some other basis?… When you have a minimum wage you’re going to have competition on [non-priced] dimensions,” he said. “In the old days it was the white guys who won those contests.”

# Link Scenario Answers

## AT More Income Solves Poverty

**Turn**: increases poverty, and low income households don’t have minimum wage workers. **Fraser 14**[[23]](#footnote-23)

Minimum wage policies have other unintended consequences. Evidence shows that employers not only respond to a minimum wage floor by decreasing the number of jobs, but they also cut back on hours (Couch and Wittenburg, 2001), provide less on-the-job training and other non-wage benefits (Neumark and Wascher, 2001; Marks, 2011), and give employment priority to their most productive and experienced workers (Neumark and Wascher, 1995). There is also a growing body of evidence that shows minimum wage increases actually do little to help households in need. One recent study exam- ined increases in the minimum wage across Canadian provinces from 1981 to 2004 and actually found that raising the minimum wage was associated with a four- to six-percent increase in the percentage of families living below Statistics Canada’s low income cut-off (LICO) line (see Sen et al., 2011). In a 2012 study by renowned Canadian minimum-wage researchers, Michele Campolieti, Morley Gunderson, and Byron Lee, the authors analyzed prov- incial data from 1997 to 2007 and found that raising the minimum wage had no statistically discernible impact on measures of relative poverty including LICO (Campolieti et al., 2012). One important reason for these findings is that the bulk of those working for minimum wage do not actually belong to low-income households. In a 2009 study, researchers used Statistics Canada data to profile minimum-wage earners in Ontario. They found that “over 80% of low-wage earners are not members of poor households” and that “over 75% of poor households do not have a member who is a low-wage earner” (Mascella et al., 2009: 373).19

**Turn**: Higher wages trade off with non-wage benefits. **Worstall ’14[[24]](#footnote-24)**

Finally, we’d also expect to see non-wage compensation decrease as a result of the rise. The wages you get paid are not the only things that make up the amount that your employer is paying out for your work. Sometimes they are trivial things, free parking at work perhaps (although in some cities that’s worth a great deal). Others are rather more important, like health care insurance. And we’ve already seen these things changing at SeaTac, where the minimum wage is already $15 an hour: While attending an event at a SeaTac hotel last week, I met two women who receive the $15/hour minimum wage. SeaTac has implemented the new law on Jan. 1. I met the women while they were working. One was a waitress and the other was cleaning the hallway. “Are you happy with the $15 wage?” I asked the full-time cleaning lady. “It sounds good, but it’s not good,” the woman said. “Why?” I asked. “I lost my 401k, health insurance, paid holiday, and vacation,” she responded. “No more free food,” she added. The hotel used to feed her. Now, she has to bring her own food. Also, no overtime, she said. She used to work extra hours and received overtime pay. What else? I asked. “I have to pay for parking,” she said. I then asked the part-time waitress, who was part of the catering staff. “Yes, I’ve got $15 an hour, but all my tips are now much less,” she said. Before the new wage law was implemented, her hourly wage was $7. But her tips added to more than $15 an hour. Yes, she used to receive free food and parking. Now, she has to bring her own food and pay for parking. Employers look at the total cost of employing people. They’re indifferent (that is, they just don’t mind) whether that’s made up of wages only, or wages and benefits, or what the precise mix between the two is (a slight caveat here, it depends on the tax treatment of the various components of the total package). But if you mandate a change in one part of that mix they’ll struggle mightily to make sure that the cost to them of the total package is exactly the same.

Your evidence only measures the poverty line, which is only based on wage income, so your evidence is useless on this question. Numeric definitions of poverty may decrease but people have to pay for those benefits themselves and lose access to poverty-demarcated assistance programs, and things like insurance that are more expensive for individuals than businesses – it’s net worse.

## AT Worker Dignity

### Unemployment Turn – Short

Living wage causes massive job loss – prefer meta analyses. **Wascher 07**[[25]](#footnote-25)

We review the burgeoning literature on the employment effects of minimum wages – in the United States and other countries – that was spurred by the new minimum wage research beginning in the early 1990s. Our review indicates that there is a wide range of existing estimates and, accordingly, a lack of consensus about the overall effects on low-wage employment of an increase in the minimum wage. However, the oft-stated assertion that recent research fails to support the traditional view that the minimum wage reduces the employment of low-wage workers is clearly incorrect. A sizable majority of the studies surveyed in this monograph give a relatively consistent (although not always statistically significant) indication of negative employment effects of minimum wages. In addition, among the papers we view as providing the most credible evidence, almost all point to negative employment effects, both for the United States as well as for many other countries. Two other important conclusions emerge from our review. First, we see very few – if any – studies that provide convincing evidence of positive employment effects of minimum wages, especially from those studies that focus on the broader groups (rather than a narrow industry) for which the competitive model predicts disemployment effects. Second, the studies that focus on the least-skilled groups provide relatively overwhelming evidence of stronger disemployment effects for these groups.

Outweighs: **A.** Proves international consensus which verifies that the causal mechanisms behind the job loss are true in all market conditions – this means effects will be enduring and can’t solve **B.** It likely underestimates the effect since the higher the wage and the more credible the study, the worse the impact

Job loss affects self-perception and psychological health. **Brand ‘14[[26]](#footnote-26)**

A job is more than a source of income. It is a fundamental social role providing a source of identity, self-concept, and social relations. Classical social theorists, including Weber and Marx, describe, in diverse ways, the centrality of work to the individual ego and social identity and prestige. Jobs are also an integral component to the process of social stratification, inequality, and mobility, representing a principal outcome of social background resources and individual attainment. The displacement of workers has become a normative feature of the U.S. labor market, commonly assumed to increase economic efficiency. However, the costs of such fluidity are unequally distributed, born largely by displaced workers and those closest to them. Moreover, if lack of regulation negatively impacts worker, family, and community well-being, countervailing effects that decrease overall productivity inevitably follow. The evidence that job loss matters, that the range of consequences is wide, and that the effects persist long-term, is persuasive. The research literature described above documents nontrivial, short- and long-term observed differences between displaced and non- displaced workers across far-reaching life outcomes. Displacement is associated with significant economic costs, including a period of unemployment, reduced income, lower job quality, loss of health and pension benefits, and interruption of asset accrual. Long-term trends of rising inequality and job market polarization exacerbate adjustment problems the displaced endure. And, as indicated throughout this review, job loss is not limited to economic effects. Worker displacement is associated with: lower levels of self-acceptance, goal and meaning in life, and morale; higher levels of depressive symptoms and poor health; loss of social support and personal reassessment in relation to societal norms and unemployment stigmatization; new patterns of interaction with family members, restriction of socially-supportive collegial relationships, and disruption of social and family ties; and intergenerational effects as indicated by reduced attainment among children of displaced workers. Some of these themes have received considerable empirical investigation, while others, including family and community effects, have received less attention. Future work should attend more fully to the impact of displacement beyond workers themselves.

Outweighs:

**A.** Worker dignity based on wage value is a marginal increase at best, it’s still wage labor in essentially the same relation to employers. It changes the amount but doesn’t change employer control.

**B.** Has more of an impact on dignity because it impacts their self-definition. How you see yourself frames how others see you but also how you perceive others interactions with you.

**C.** Objective ability to pursue life plans is irrelevant if individuals don’t to take advantage of resources, so psychological factors that stop individuals from doing that preclude their offense.

## AT Bargaining Power

**Turn:** Living wages hurt workers’ bargaining power **Boudreaux**[[27]](#footnote-27)

Minimum-wage legislation prohibits wages from falling low enough to equate the number of people seeking jobs with the number of jobs being offered. As a result, the supply of unskilled labor permanently exceeds the demand for’ unskilled labor at the government-mandated minimum wage. Minimum-wage legislation thus creates a buyers’ market for unskilled labor. And as in all buyers’ markets, buyers (employers) have an unequal bargaining advantage over sellers (unskilled workers). Consider, for example, a grocer. Suppose he decides that a clean parking lot will attract more customers, and that this will increase his sales by $10 per day. Of course, the grocer will pay no more than $10 a day to have his parking lot cleaned. He then investigates how best to get this done. Suppose there are two options available to him. One way is to hire a fairly skilled worker who can clean the parking lot in one hour, while the second way is to hire two unskilled workers who, working together, will get the job done in the same time. Other things being equal, the grocer will make his decision based upon the relative cost of skilled versus unskilled labor. Let’s assume the skilled worker will charge $6 an hour, while each of the unskilled workers will charge $2.50 an hour. In a free labor market, the grocer will hire the two unskilled workers be-cause, in total, it costs him $5 per hour for the unskilled workers whereas it would cost $6 for the one skilled worker. But what will the grocer do if a minimum wage of $4 per hour is imposed? To hire the two unskilled workers will now cost him a total of $8 an hour. The skilled worker now becomes the better bargain at $6 an hour. Minimum-wage legislation strips unskilled workers of their one bargaining chip: the willingness to work at a lower wage than that charged by workers with more skills. The result is unemployment of the unskilled workers.

Precludes your offense since it examines the root cause of bargaining power-who has more leverage. If a minimum wage prevents workers from ever accessing this leverage, there’s no way they can have bargaining power. Also, prefer arguments about the underlying economic principles to specific studies a) they’re universally applicable instead of just to the scenario of the study b) studies can contradict each other or be designed poorly but the reason economic principles are principles is because they have been repeateadly confirmed.

It changes the way people have to bargain – they have to bargain by accepting abusive conditions instead of monetarily. **Zycher ‘15[[28]](#footnote-28)**

Your March 10 editorial “The Abused Maids of Asia” notes in passing the minimum monthly wage for maids in Hong Kong of $530, but fails to discuss the central role of that policy as a source of the abusive conditions to which the maids are subjected. The minimum wage means that maids cannot compete for employment by offering to work for less money; instead, they must compete by accepting abusive conditions. Without the minimum wage, maids subjected to abuse could seek alternative employment with wages lower than the minimum, but with better conditions. With the minimum wage, employers have sharply weaker incentives to offer better conditions. Moreover, many of the ancillary abuses suffered by the maids also are the direct result of the minimum wage, which attracts too many aspiring maids seeking higher incomes, thus allowing exorbitant fees for required “training courses” and for unscrupulous employment agencies. The minimum wage does not reduce competition among low-skilled workers; it shifts it in ways that easily can leave them worse off overall. This economic reality is relevant to the minimum wage debate in the U.S.

Also answers your solvency ev – extra money that they *should* be getting isn’t going to them because the market isn’t clearing: instead, other actors are able to take it from them in order to get them in the door.

## AT Demand Growth

1. **[basic income-specific]** Cross-apply Wells ’14 from the CP – basic income does this better. That combined with Rotman also indicates they don’t get their internal link: the squo mechanism of wages breaks down when technology makes high unemployment the norm, their evidence assumes a very different economic context.

2. Even in the best case, this doesn’t work – cutting the minimum wage boosts aggregate demand – two warrants. **Caplan ‘09[[29]](#footnote-29)**

1. Cutting wages increases the quantity of labor demanded. If labor demand is elastic, total labor income rises as a result of wage cuts. 2. Even if labor demand is inelastic, moreover, wage cuts reduce labor income by raising employers' income. So unless employers are unusually likely to put cash under their matresses, wage cuts still boost aggregate demand. An even simpler way to explain it: Imagine every firm divided its existing payroll between a larger number of workers. How is that bad for aggregate demand - or anything but good for employment?

That I can provide an analytic warrant should outweigh – that’s the only way to check back confounding variables since it provides a basis for assigning causality.

3. You have the math backwards. Consumption doesn’t impact econ growth – delinks your scenario. **Dorn ‘14[[30]](#footnote-30)**

Proponents of the minimum wage argue that those workers who do retain their jobs will consume more, which will increase aggregate demand and increase GDP. But that line of argument is a case of upside-down economics. Consumption is not a determinant of economic growth; it is the result of a prior increase in production. Workers cannot be paid what they haven’t first produced. A higher minimum wage—without a corresponding increase in the demand for labor caused by an increase in labor productivity (due to more capital per worker, better technology, or more education)—will mean fewer jobs, slower job growth, and higher unemployment for lower-skilled workers. Higher-skilled workers and union workers will benefit, but only at the expense of lower-skilled workers, especially the young and minorities. There is no free lunch.

## AT Unionization

Implementing the living wage would decrease participation in unions because people will be content with the living wage reform. **Luce 05**[[31]](#footnote-31)

The link between union organizing and the living wage is complex. Although some living-wage opponents claim that unionization efforts are the main motive behind the movement, not all union leaders are convinced of the opportunities for translating living-wage campaigns into new organizing. In fact, some assert that the campaigns hurt organizing efforts: If workers can get higher wages through legislation, why would they fight for a union? The reality is somewhere in between. Ken Jacobs, head organizer for the San Francisco living-wage campaign, argues that where unions have been strategic about involvement in campaigns, they have seen positive results. Where unions are neutral or even skeptical of the campaigns and stay out of them, living-wage ordinances can in fact be a detriment to new organizing. Unfortunately for unions, Taft-Hartley states that city governments cannot require employers to have unions or even that employers abide by card-check and neutrality agreements to get a city contract (Sahu, 2001).

Outweighs:

**A.** Arguments based on principles are the only option – in the status quo living wage law are passed only after immense public pressure, which means people already want those types of arrangements – this is the only way to establish causation.

**B.** Even if unions exist, the living wage removes the incentive for them to bargain and press for gains – it satisifies workers so they can’t bargain

Your unions impact aren’t to the same type of unions as your link – these undercut the law, guts aff solvency and are vanguardism at it’s worst – workers don’t get a choice about unionizing. **NELSEN ‘14**[[32]](#footnote-32)

Los Angeles became the latest to join the movement when the city council approved a law on Sept. 24 requiring large hotels to pay employees at least $15.37 per hour and provide generous paid sick-leave benefits. But the ordinance includes a provision, increasingly common in similar ordinances, that permits unions to waive the requirements in collective bargaining. This waiver enables labor organizers to approach a nonunion employer struggling to pay the new minimum with the following offer: assist them in unionizing employees by signing a "neutrality agreement," in return for which the union will use the collective-bargaining waiver to allow the employer to pay less than the new statutory minimum. While the details of each neutrality agreement vary, they typically obligate the employer to remain silent on the unionization effort, provide union organizers with employees' personal contact information, and waive the employees' right to a secret-ballot election administered by the National Labor Relations Board. Such deals may be good for the union and better than the alternative the employer faces, but workers lose their right to determine whether to unionize in a secret ballot election. And the living-wage ordinance is exposed as a cynical political ploy.

# Methodology Weighing

## Prefer Wilson

1. It is functionally a meta-meta study as it takes into account different people who have studied multiple studies. This is better because it avoids a selection bias in a single meta study.

2. It takes into account all three economic models that have been used to study the minimum wage and comes to the same conclusion with each, so it avoids the risk of one of the models being flawed.

3. It is consistent with the historical consensus- Wilson confirms that the main finding of economists over time is his conclusion, that there is a large employment effect. Prefer since a historical consensus takes into account various changing eras and is more likely to be right since it avoids the bias of short-lived trends in economic thinking.

## AT Dube et al

1. Your study isn’t relevant, its about a minimum wage not a living wage. 1) the two are different terms, if they wanted to talk about a living wgae they would have said that’s what their study is about 2) the minimum wage they studied was only 8.50 an hour, which means basically no definition of a living wage.

2. Dube’s study is just about San Francisco. He never generalizes it to say it would work elsewhere. In the conclusion he says he thinks it could apply, but never attempts to prove this and admits that more research is needed.

3. [assuming the plan isn’t about restaurants] The survey only studies restaurants, no evidence that its findings are universal. The article never attempts to demonstrate that the effects would be similar in different industries, which could easily not be the case since every industry is different.

## AT Neumark And Adams

This study is terrible –

A. Uses CPS data, which is inapplicable to the living wage statutes. **Chapman and Thompson ‘06 summarize Brenner et al[[33]](#footnote-33)**

To begin with, the data source used in the Neumark and Adams studies is the Current Population Survey (CPS), a national survey used by the Bureau of Labor Statistics to measure unemployment, wages, and other labor market outcomes. While an excellent data source for many purposes, it is inappropriate for the task of analyzing the impact of living wage laws. Given that in some communities the living wage law only impacts a few hundred workers, it is unlikely that any affected workers are surveyed by the CPS at all in some communities. Even in Los Angeles, with one of the broadest of living wage ordinances, Brenner, Wicks-Lim, and Pollin estimate that one year of CPS data would likely include about eight affected workers20 (Brenner, Wicks-Lim, and Pollin 2002, 13). In addition, the CPS does not contain data on the workers’ employer, making it impossible to positively identify those eight workers if they do appear in the survey. Using the CPS to analyze the economic effects of living wage laws makes finding a needle in a haystack look like a relatively simple chore, which is why most researchers have eschewed it for the more costly and time-intensive process of administering new surveys targeted specifically to be able to calculate the impacts of living wages. These surveys reflect the experiences of firms and workers actually impacted by living wage ordinances, while the CPS data at best allow Neumark and Adams to analyze a broad swath of the more general, low-wage workforce.

**B.** No plausible causality for these studies – they apply to fewer people than the mnimum wage, but Neumark and Adams suggest they have a larger anti-poverty effect. Their explanation is that business assistance is responsible, which doesn’t make sense. **Bartik ‘04[[34]](#footnote-34)**

Finally, the poverty reduction due to living wages is much greater than expected. The estimated anti-poverty effects of living wages are greater than expected for similar-sized increase in the minimum wage. For example, Houseman (1998) suggests an elasticity of poverty with respect to an increased minimum wage of –0.1, even if a higher minimum wage has zero effects on employment.11 Neumark and Adam’s (2001b) estimated elasticity for the living wage of –0.17 is almost twice as large as the simulated effects of a minimum wage. This is difficult to believe because the living wage covers far fewer workers. Neumark and Adams (2001a) suggest that the surprisingly large effects of living wages can be explained by the potentially large number of employers that receive economic development assistance. I am skeptical of this argument, because large economic development subsidies typically only go to new and expanding manufacturing companies. New or expanding manufacturers are a small share of the labor market. Manufacturing firms often pay high wages, so only a small proportion of workers at such firms would be affected by living wage laws. The limited information available suggests that even living wages for economic development assistance only cover a small proportion of the labor market. For example, Neumark and Adams’ (2001a) own numbers (derived in part from Pollin and Luce 1998) suggest that Los Angeles’s living wage ordinance, which includes recipients of economic development assistance, would only directly raise wages of 0.76 percent of workers in the lowest quartile of the wage distribution.12 Finally, even if living wage laws had broad coverage, this would not explain how living wage laws can reduce both weekly earnings and poverty.

# Impact Defense

## AT Poverty

No impact of poverty on overall wellbeing, studies confirm **Alter ‘14[[35]](#footnote-35)**

Oishi and Diener have spent much of their careers hunting for the ingredients of well-being. For [some economists](http://www.econ.ohio-state.edu/pdf/well-be.pdf), well-being is seen as arising when benefits outweigh costs; for the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](http://www.cdc.gov/hrqol/wellbeing.htm), it requires good living conditions and positive relationships; for [spiritualists](http://wellbeing.wsu.edu/spiritual/), it’s a pleasurable state that can’t be measured by economists or by the C.D.C. Oishi and Diener, like many psychologists, [believe](http://psycnet.apa.org/journals/bul/95/3/542/) that well-being is the sum of the positive and negative thoughts and feelings that arise when we reflect on our lives. That includes—but can’t be limited to—happiness. Happiness, after all, doesn’t explain the popularity of ultramarathons, mountaineering, and Tough Mudder events (which Lizzie Widdicombe [describes](http://www.newyorker.com/reporting/2014/01/27/140127fa_fact_widdicombe) in this week’s magazine)—or the sacrifices parents must make to raise children. Some of the most rewarding life experiences are popular because they favor meaningful hardship over simple pleasure. Oishi and Diener decided to understand how wealth influences both happiness and meaningfulness by examining the relationship between a country’s wealth and the well-being of its citizens. Thousands of people, completing an annual Gallup survey administered in a hundred and thirty-two countries, reported how happy they were, whether their lives had “an important purpose or meaning,” and where their lives stood on a scale from zero (worst possible life) to ten (best possible life). The first result [replicated](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/23231724) [plenty](http://www.apa.org/pubs/journals/releases/psp-104-2-267.pdf) of earlier research: people from wealthier countries were generally happier than those from poorer countries. To reach an average life-satisfaction score of four out of ten, people needed to earn about seven hundred dollars a year; for a score of five, they needed to earn an average of three thousand dollars per year; for a score of six, they needed to earn an average of sixteen thousand dollars per year; and to score seven they needed to earn an average of sixty-four thousand dollars a year. But, if wealth fostered happiness, it appeared to drain meaningfulness. Between ninety-five and a hundred per cent of the respondents from poverty-stricken Sierra Leone, Togo, Kyrgyzstan, Chad, and Ethiopia reported leading meaningful lives. Only two-thirds of the respondents in Japan, France, and Spain believed their lives had meaning. There are plenty of reasons that poverty might inspire a search for meaning. Oishi and Diener found that people from religious countries were more likely to report that their lives had meaning. In fact, religious belief turned out to be the trait most strongly correlated with meaning. Religion provides a sense of purpose, and imbues otherwise mundane choices, like an observant Jew’s decision to avoid pork, with great significance. People from poor countries also tended to have stronger social connections—to report that they could count on friends and family for support if they encountered trouble—and to have more children than the rich; Oishi and Diener found that people from countries with a higher fertility rate consistently reported leading a meaningful life. For a [paper](http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/17439760.2013.830764%23.UtWLqbTs3uE) published last year by the psychologist Roy Baumeister and his colleagues, four hundred adults in the United States completed a survey designed to measure, separately, what made their lives happier or more meaningful. The researchers found that people were happiest when their needs and desires were met in the present, but that this immediate fulfillment “was largely irrelevant to meaningfulness.” Respondents derived meaning from considering the whole of their lives, including the past and future. Happiness was generally a reflection of how they felt in the present alone. Happier people were more likely to report leading easy lives, to be in good health, to feel good much of the time, and to be able to buy what they needed without financial strain. People who felt their lives were meaningful, on the other hand, were likelier to have experienced fulfilling social relationships, engaged in acts of charity, taken care of their children, thought about struggles and challenges, and prayed, among other activities. These characteristics sound a lot like the social ties and religious beliefs that gave poorer people a sense of purpose in Oishi and Diener’s paper. Perhaps because poverty strips people of happiness in the short term, it forces them to take the long view—to focus on the relationships they have with their children, their gods, and their friends, which become more meaningful over time.

# Helpers vs FW Affs

## Consequentialism FW

Evaluate NC offense through a consequentialist paradigm –

**1. Actor Specificity**- there’s no act-omission distinction for states so any metric for evaluation collapses into consequentialism to weigh competing violations – otherwise their theory leads to paralysis. **Sunstein and Vermeule[[36]](#footnote-36)**

In our view, any effort to distinguish between acts and omissions goes wrong by overlooking the distinctive features of government as a moral agent. If correct, this point has broad implications for criminal and civil law. Whatever the general status of the act/omission distinction as a matter of moral philosophy, the distinction is least impressive when applied to government, because the most plausible underlying considerations do not apply to official actors. The most fundamental point is that unlike individuals, governments always and necessarily face a choice between or among possible policies for regulating third parties. The distinction between acts and omissions may not be intelligible in this context, and even if it is, the distinction does not make a morally relevant difference. Most generally, government is in the business of creating permissions and prohibitions. When it explicitly or implicitly authorizes private action, it is not omitting to do anything or refusing to act. Moreover, the distinction between authorized and unauthorized private action – for example, private killing – becomes obscure when government formally forbids private action but chooses a set of policy instruments that do not adequately or fully discourage it. If there is no act-omission distinction, then government is fully complicit with any harm it allows, so decisions are moral if they minimize harm. All means based and side constraint theories collapse because two violations require aggregation.

**2.** Physical consequences are the only things we can observe. We may know our own intentions, but we don’t know the intentions of others so we cannot take those to be relevant to moral justification since they aren’t accessible to us. Reasoning is the process of providing justification to someone else, but if they can’t accept the premises, it can’t be a reason. Precludes other framework warrants since it links directly into the structure of ethical justification.

**3. Psychological Preference** – people view consequentialism as an appropriate way to judge actions. **Gino ‘8[[37]](#footnote-37)**

The present studies provide strong evidence of the existence of outcome effects in ethically-relevant contexts, when people are asked to judge the ethicality of others’ behavior. It is worth noting that what we show is not the same as the curse of knowledge or the hindsight bias. The curse of knowledge describes people’s inability to recover an uninformed state of mind (Camerer, Loewenstein, & Weber, 1989). Likewise, the hindsight bias leads people to misremember what they believed before they knew an event’s outcome (e.g., Fischhoff, 1975; Fischhoff & Beyth, 1975). By contrast, we show that that outcomes of decisions lead people to see the decisions themselves in a different light, and that this effect does not depend on misremembering their prior state of mind. In other words, people will see it as entirely appropriate to allow a decision’s outcome to determine their assessment of the decision’s quality.

**Impacts:**

A. makes the standard more probable – we presume peoples reasoning has some ability to track moral truth in any moral reasoning, so the fact that people agree on consequentialism is proof for it.

B. delinks indicts of consequentialism since people use it – even if it may be imperfect, that doesn’t indicate that consequentialism as a way to derive truths is false. Also proves calculation is possible since we do it.

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